November 19-20, 2026

ITEM 227-2002-R1126

Request Authorization to Confer the Title Professor Emeritus of Microbiology and Cell Biology on Mark Quinn; Montana State University

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THAT

Upon the retirement of Dr. Mark Quinn from the faculty of Montana State University, the Board of Regents wishes to express its appreciation for his service to the University, the Montana University System, and the people of the State of Montana.

EXPLANATION

Dr. Mark Quinn joined MSU in 1989 as a Senior Research Associate following a postdoctoral fellowship at The Scripps Research Institute. In 1995, he was recruited to the Department of Veterinary Molecular Biology as a tenure-track faculty member. He advanced through the academic ranks to become a Professor and subsequently served as Department Head for nine years. Under his leadership, the department evolved and was ultimately renamed Immunology & Infectious Diseases, reflecting its expanding scientific scope and research mission. Following his tenure as Department Head, Dr. Quinn served as Director of the MSU Washington State Regional Program in Veterinary Medicine from 2014 until his retirement. Throughout his career, he demonstrated an exceptional ability to lead, build programs, support colleagues, and advance MSU's reputation for research and academic excellence.

Dr. Quinn was a highly sought-after mentor and educator whose influence extended across all stages of scientific training and academic development. He taught *Ethical Practice of Science*, a highly popular undergraduate course that he also co-convened at the graduate level, fulfilling the responsible conduct of research training requirement for M.S. and Ph.D. students. He also taught *Introduction to Pharmacology*, a particularly popular upper-division course among pre-veterinary and pre-medical students. Throughout his career, he successfully mentored undergraduate students, graduate students, and postdoctoral fellows, many of whom went on to distinguished careers in veterinary medicine, medicine, graduate education, and academic research. His graduate trainees secured prestigious postdoctoral positions and subsequently established successful academic careers. One of his former trainees now serves as Chief of the Laboratory of Bacteriology at Rocky Mountain Laboratories within the Division of Intramural Research at the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), National Institutes of Health (NIH), a testament to the caliber of scientists he helped develop.

Beyond his scholarly achievements, Dr. Quinn exemplified the highest ideals of a Montana State University faculty member through his commitment to service, integrity, and generosity toward others. Whether leading academic programs, guiding major research initiatives, or serving in critical institutional oversight roles, he consistently placed the success of the university and his colleagues alongside his own accomplishments.

For these and other contributions, the Board of Regents of Higher Education is pleased to confer on Dr. Mark Quinn the rank of Professor Emeritus of Microbiology and Cell Biology at Montana State University and wishes him well for many years in the future.

ATTACHMENTS

None